

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF DELAWARE

In re: MODIFICATION OF THE §
REQUIREMENTS UNDER SUPREME §
COURT RULE 52(a)(8) §

ORDER

This 5th day of June, 2020, it appears to the Supreme Court of Delaware that:

WHEREAS, Rule 52(a)(8) of the Rules of this Court requires, among other things, applicants for admission to the Bar of this State (“Applicant”) to be physically located in the State of Delaware for the purpose of serving a clerkship under the direct and constant supervision of a qualifying member of the Bar of this State for a period of 21 forty-hour work weeks (the “Clerkship”);

WHEREAS, Governor John C. Carney declared a State of Emergency for the State of Delaware that took effect on March 13, 2020 due to the public health threat caused by COVID 19 (the “State of Emergency”);

WHEREAS, as a result of the State of Emergency and the ongoing COVID 19 public health crisis, many employers located in the State of Delaware are requiring their employees to work remotely;

WHEREAS, employers may require remote work to continue through the summer, as they implement gradual or phased re-opening plans designed to promote the safe return of employees to an office setting (“Re-Opening Plans”);

WHEREAS, certain Applicants reside outside of the State of Delaware and are now required to work remotely from their out-of-state residences because of the State of Emergency and Re-Opening Plans;

WHEREAS, but for the State of Emergency and Re-Opening Plans, such out-of-state work would have been performed in the State of Delaware, including service of the Clerkship; and

WHEREAS, due to the duration of the State of Emergency, the gradual and phased nature of the Re-Opening Plans, and the disruption to regular working conditions, the Court considers it advisable to modify the requirement that the Clerkship be served in the State of Delaware in certain respects;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED as follows:

1. Clerkship service performed outside of the State of Delaware will count toward an Applicant's Clerkship requirement, provided that: (a) the service is performed during the period of March 13, 2020 to August 31, 2020; (b) but for the State of Emergency and Re-Opening Plans, the Applicant would have been serving the Clerkship in the State of Delaware; and (c) the service outside of the State of Delaware satisfies each of the other requirements of Rule 52(a)(8).

2. Service outside of the State of Delaware in accordance with paragraph 1 of this Order may count for no more than 10 of the 21 forty-hour work weeks required to satisfy Rule 52(a)(8).

3. For any service outside of the State of Delaware that the Applicant submits to be counted toward the Applicant's Clerkship requirement, the Applicant and the Applicant's Preceptor shall specifically certify: (a) the dates on which the service was performed; (b) that the service meets the requirements of paragraph 1 of this Order; and (c) the identity of the Delaware lawyer(s) who directly and constantly supervised the service performed.

BY THE COURT:

/s/ Collins J. Seitz, Jr.
Chief Justice